

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Matthew Anderson on 03/04/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method for graphics processing, comprising: receiving node and view data for a graphic object in a data processing system; building a binary-space-partition tree corresponding to the graphic object, the binary-space-partition tree having up to a predetermined number of at least one shape associated with each leaf; sorting shapes at each leaf of the binary-space-partition tree; and outputting the sorted shapes from the data processing system.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not teach a method and system for graphics processing comprising: building a binary-space-partition tree corresponding to the graphic object, the binary-space-partition tree having up to a predetermined number of at least one

shape associated with each leaf; sorting shapes at each leaf of the binary-space-partition tree.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimbinh T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-7644. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xiao Wu can be reached at (571) 272-7761. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

March 7, 2009

/Kimbinh T. Nguyen/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2628

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